WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image encoding apparatus, comprising:

input means for inputting motion-image data;

control means for outputting an encoding parameter such that an amount of code provided when the input motion-image data is encoded in units of predetermined sizes is a predetermined amount of code;

storage means for storing the encoding parameter output by said control means; and

encoding means for encoding the motion-image data input from said input means by adaptively selecting the encoding parameter output from said control means or the encoding parameter stored in said storage means.

2. An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said encoding means encodes a predetermined number of frames of the input motion-image data from the top by the use of the encoding parameter output from said control means and encodes the subsequent frames of the input motion-image data by the use of the encoding parameter stored in said storage means.

3. An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 2, further comprising detecting means for detecting a change

between frames of the input motion-image data,

wherein said encoding means selects an encoding parameter according to the output of the detecting means.

4. An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said input means comprises capture means for capturing an object, and

the detecting means detects a change of the input motion-image data according to a camera parameter of the capture means.

5. An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said encoding means adaptively selects an intra-encoding mode or an inter-encoding mode to encode the motion-image data.

6. An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein said encoding means forcedly executes the intra-encoding mode at a predetermined period.

7. An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the detecting means detects a change of the motion-image data by detecting at least one of a change of white balance, a change of the iris, and a change of zooming.

8.   An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 1,
further comprising recording means for recording the motion-
image data encoded by said encoding means, into a recording
medium.

9.   An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein said encoding means comprises quantization means for
quantizing the motion-image data,

wherein the quantization parameter of the quantization
means is used as the encoding parameter.

10.   An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein said encoding means executes encoding conforming to
the MPEG-1 or MPEG-2 standard.

11.   An image encoding method comprising the steps of:

inputting motion-image data;

outputting an encoding parameter such that an amount of
code provided when the input motion-image data is encoded in
units of predetermined sizes is a predetermined amount of
code;

storing the output encoding parameter in a storage
medium; and

encoding the input motion-image data by adaptively
selecting the output encoding parameter or the encoding

parameter stored in the storage medium.

12. A storage medium for storing a program, the program comprising:

input processing of inputting motion-image data;

control processing of outputting an encoding parameter such that an amount of code provided when the input motion-image data is encoded in units of predetermined sizes is a predetermined amount of code;

storage processing of storing the output encoding parameter; and

encoding processing of encoding the input motion-image data by adaptively selecting the encoding parameter output from said control processing or the encoding parameter stored in said storage processing.

13. An image encoding apparatus, comprising:

an input device for inputting motion-image data;

a quantizer for quantizing the inputted motion-image data, based on quantization coefficient information applied to an input of said quantizer;

an encoder for encoding image data quantized by said quantizer to output corresponding encoded image data including a number of codes;

a rate control circuit for determining whether or not

the number of codes included in the encoded image data
exceeds a predetermined threshold value, and for outputting
a selected one of a plurality of first sets of quantization
coefficients, based on a result of that determination; and

a memory storing a plurality of second sets of
quantization coefficients; and

a selector for selecting either the first set of
quantization coefficients output by said rate control
circuit or one of the second sets of quantization
coefficients stored in said memory, and applying the
selected set of quantization coefficients to the input of
said quantizer, to cause said quantizer to quantize the
inputted motion-image data, based on that selected set of
quantization coefficients.

14. An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 13,
wherein, for a predetermined number of frames of the
inputted motion-image data, said selector selects the set of
first quantization coefficients output by said rate control
circuit, and applies that selected set of first
quantification coefficient to the input of said quantizer,
to enable said quantizer to quantize the inputted motion-
image data based on that set of first quantification
coefficients, and wherein for subsequent frames of the
inputted motion-image data, said selector selects one of the

sets of second quantification coefficients and applies that selected set of second quantization coefficients to the input of said quantizer, to enable said quantizer to quantize the inputted motion-image data based on that selected set of second quantification coefficients.

15.   An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 13, further comprising a detector for detecting a change in adjacent frames included in the inputted motion-image data,

    wherein said selector selects either the set of first quantization coefficients output by said rate control circuit or one of the sets of second quantization coefficients stored in said memory, based on an output of said detector.

16.   An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said input device comprises an image capturer for capturing images that are in view of the image capturer to input the motion-image data, and said detector detects the change in the adjacent frames included in the inputted motion-image data based on an output of said image capturer.

17.   An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said encoder encodes the image data quantized by said quantizer according to either an inter-encoding

technique or an intra-encoding technique, depending on a
selection made by said selector.

18. An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 17,
wherein said selector selects the set of first quantization
coefficients for a predetermined number of frames of the
inputted motion-image data, to cause said encoder to encode
the image data quantized by said quantizer according to the
intra-encoding technique.

19. An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 13,
further comprising a detector for detecting at least one of
a change of a white balance in the inputted motion-image
data, a change in an iris, and a zooming change, wherein
said selector selects either the set of first quantization
coefficients output by said rate control circuit or one of
the sets of second quantization coefficients stored said
memory, based on an output of said detector.

20. An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 13,
further comprising a recorder for recording the encoded
image output by said encoder.

21. An image encoding apparatus according to Claim 13,
wherein said encoder encodes the image data quantized by

said quantizer in accordance with at least one of the MPEG-1

standard and the MPEG-2 standard.

22.   A method for encoding motion-image data,

comprising the steps of:

inputting motion-image data;

providing a set of quantization coefficients to a first

input of a quantizer;

applying the inputted motion-image data to a second

input of the quantizer to cause the quantizer to quantize

the inputted motion-image data based on the set of

quantization coefficients provided to the first input of the

quantizer, and outputting resulting quantized image data;

encoding image data quantized by the quantizer to

provide encoded image data including a number of codes;

determining whether or not the number of codes included

in the encoded image data exceeds a predetermined threshold

value, and selecting one of a plurality of provided sets of

first quantization coefficients, based on a result of that

determination; and

selecting either the selected one of the provided sets

of first quantization coefficients or one of a plurality of

provided sets of second quantization coefficients, and

applying that selected set of quantization coefficients to

the first input of the quantizer to cause the quantizer to

quantize the inputted motion-image data based on that
selected set of quantization coefficients.

23.   A storage medium storing a program having
computer-readable code for executing a method for encoding
motion-image data, the method comprising the steps of:

inputting motion-image data;

providing a set of quantization coefficients to a first
input of a quantizer;

applying the inputted motion-image data to a second
input of the quantizer to cause the quantizer to quantize
the inputted motion-image data based on the set of
quantization coefficients provided to the first input of the
quantizer, and outputting resulting quantized image data;

encoding image data quantized by the quantizer to
provide encoded image data including a number of codes;

determining whether or not the number of codes included
in the encoded image data exceeds a predetermined threshold
value, and selecting one of a plurality of provided sets of
first quantization coefficients, based on a result of that
determination; and

selecting either the selected one of the provided sets
of first quantization coefficients or one of a plurality of
provided sets of second quantization coefficients, and
applying that selected set of quantization coefficients to

the first input of the quantizer to cause the quantizer to
quantize the inputted motion-image data based on that
selected set of quantization coefficients.